

Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

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SUPERVISOR RUSSELL STAMPER II CALLS FOR CITY/COUNTY COOPERATION ON POT HOLES

Says House of Correction Inmates, Those Sentenced to Community Service, Should Help City

Milwaukee County Supervisor Russell Stamper II said today that Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee should cooperate to fill potholes on city streets by using House of Correction inmates and those sentenced to community service to help repair streets damaged by severe winter weather.

"The streets in the inner city are in extremely bad shape," Stamper said. "It is virtually impossible to drive down Sherman Boulevard, Center Street, Fond du Lac Avenue, Locust Street, North Avenue or 60th Street without dodging a pothole or running directly into one. This winter has been brutal, but that is no excuse for allowing our inner city streets to decay and endanger citizens and their vehicles. We need creative and innovative solutions to address these potholes and deteriorating streets."

Stamper said inmates and those sentenced to community service could be trained to help in street repairs.

"I am putting together a program in which Milwaukee County, the city and the community work to create multiple ways to address this significant issue," Stamper said. "I look forward to working with the Mayor and all relevant parties to improve the conditions of our streets."

Stamper said that repair of city streets must be a priority not only because of the danger but because bad streets affect the perception of the city's diverse neighborhoods.

"When streets are deteriorating, when potholes are present every few feet, and when streets become unsafe to travel, it not only affects perceptions of the neighborhood, it affects travel and commerce," Stamper said. "This is a situation we simply cannot tolerate, and I hope other city and county officials agree that using inmates and those who are sentenced to community service can be part of a creative solution to this critical issue."

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